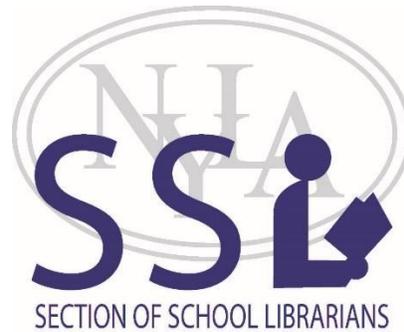


Approved at April 2015 Board meeting: Tarrytown

**MOTION: To approve the minutes as presented**

Motion made by Pauline Herr, seconded by Michelle Miller. *Motion carried.*



**NYLA/SSL Board Meeting  
Radisson, Utica  
Saturday, February 7, 2015  
Minutes**

**Outreach Leadership Communication Advocacy**

**Attendees:** Melissa Bergin, John Brock, Rebecca Buerkett, Jennifer Cannell, Beth Davis, Sheila DiMaggio, Tara Edmonds, Mary Beth Farr, Jane Herbst, Sara Kelly Johns, MaryAnn Karre, Sue Kowalski, Tina Laramie, Jill Leinung, Nina Levine, Michelle Miller, Karen O'Donnell, Susan Polos, Dawn Pressimone, Joanne Shawhan, Katie St. Laurent, Maureen Squier, Penny Sweeney, Heather Turner.

**Meeting opened:** 1:20 pm Saturday, February 7th

**Administration** – Jill Leinung, President

**MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented (only changes are moving the Advocacy Chair report earlier in the agenda, and possibly eliminating Saturday evening and/or Sunday morning committee sessions depending on weather).**

Motion made by Karen Sperrazza, Second by Jane Herbst. *Motion carried.*

- Welcome and Introductions
- Approval of Minutes from November's Board Meeting – Rebecca Buerkett, Secretary

**MOTION: To approve the November board meeting minutes as presented.**

Motion made by Susan Polos, Second by Michelle Miller. *Motion carried.*

- Treasurer's Report – Tina Laramie, Treasurer – no report this time since Tina is in the process of getting all the information from Patty

**MOTION: To spend \$2,000 to support the nonfiction author panel at the NYS Social Studies Conference.**

Motion made by Beth Davis, Second by Tara Edmonds. Discussion: could we ask them to sponsor a program (strand) at one of our conferences? *Motion carried.*

- Past President's Report – Karen Sperrazza
  - Mission Statement – talks more about our job and less about our work. Needs to be changed.

**MOTION: To change our mission statement to read, "NYLA-SSL empowers certified school librarians to transform teaching and learning."**

Motion made by Karen Sperrazza, Second by Katie St. Laurent. *Motion carried.*

-3 Apples – Ana Canino-Fluit and Mary Ann Sheets on committee – need 3 people on committee so they can rotate through, but this year will be a building year (Jill will appoint a third member). Jeremy said we could host 3 Apples website on NYLA site.

-New Board Members - Voting will take place via the NYLA site in June-July, but bylaws state that nominations are to be announced to the Board at the February Board meeting. This year we are voting for odd numbered Regional Coordinators. Coordinators from Regions I and III are being nominated again. Michaela Schied will be nominated for Region V, because Anne Paulson has served 2 terms in that position. Treasurer-Intern nominee is Anne Paulson. AASL Delegate is Sue Bartle who has agreed to run for a second 3-year term. Stacey Rattner is interning with MaryAnn Karre and has accepted the nomination for VP-Conferences. Region VII has an immediate opening due to a resignation; Patty Martire has agreed to step in.

- President Update – Jill Leinung
  - Essential Questions:

1. How do we convince school librarians of NYS of the worth of belonging to a professional organization and thus increase our membership?
2. How do we convince other stakeholders – parents, teachers, students, administrators – of the value to students from having access to a certified school librarian in every school building?

-Overview of the Library Organization – see Library Organizational document in Google Drive – we are the only group that has this structure, spread throughout the state for representation – NYLA is a division of AASL and a chapter of ALA.

-Affiliates as a NYLA Round Table vs. current structure - The volume of our membership gives weight to our mission, and we need to get certified elementary school librarian requirement passed. So how to boost membership? According to Jeremy – if we decide to convert our SSL regional affiliates group to a NYLA roundtable: Pro - we would become a nonprofit and would fall under NYLA (helps with insurance); Con - in order to be a member of the affiliate, everyone would have to become a member of NYLA, so would cost to join be a deterrent? Need 25 members and one affiliate to join in order to pass. If we don't want to do this, we need to have a plan to increase membership. Questions: Would each affiliate be a roundtable (150 members) or would we all be one roundtable (but we'd have more than 150). If even half of school librarians in NYS were NYLA members, we would have enormous power to drive agenda at NYLA. What is the cost and what does it do for me? Does each member have to pay the full amount? How do we let people know that the membership rate is only "suggested?" We would rather have 5,000 members at \$50 than fewer members paying \$125.

Action Steps: We will go back and talk to affiliates and regional reps to get opinions on how to boost membership, Jen Cannell will talk to SLSA to see if they can help get more members by becoming organizational members (larger school districts or SLS), encourage members to join at a lower rate, use the potential passage of the certified elementary librarian bill as our

hook in getting new members, get Jeremy to come to next meeting to discuss roundtable issue, get Mike Nepl to come to conference to speak, get parents/PTA members to join at the Friends level. Our bill needs to go through in this congress with ESEA. We have work to do – it will take all kinds of librarians and supporters! Need to create a framework NOW – timeline and to-do list to better prioritize.

- Sue Kowalski – Advocacy Chair – stick to priorities and focus campaign so we can get things done. Sue and Michelle and Maureen and Heather will work together to create prioritized timeline. Marilyn Arnone is helping to create a NYLA-SSL campaign video. Getting testimonials, etc. Need to get other people advocating for our role as librarians, not just librarians. Can we target NYSCATE the same way we target the SS conference? We need to expand beyond our circle! We need to “get out the vote” and let people know that we are not the old-fashioned evil librarians of their childhoods. We need to promote ourselves as professional development gurus – get our voices heard. What are our success stories? Have we saved a book from being banned? Saved a position? Sue Kowalski will create a rubric of advocacy ideas using Ineffective, Developing, Effective, Highly Effective in terms of what we all do for advocacy.

### **Action Items**

- Communication – Michelle Miller, Vice President of Communications  
ISissler – first web-based newsletter went out, 6 people responded to survey, people want to see success stories, best practices. Dissemination is very challenging. Add Library Deals and Steals as marketing and advertising. Dissemination issue: SLSA doesn’t want to send out or share mailing lists. We need to get the word out. Perhaps we can send it to one person (Jen), and she can disseminate? This is only 4 times per year.
- Web Page – Heather Turner

Changing to new format, let her know if you have any changes, have feature librarian on main site. Should start Edmodo or Schoology group so people can connect.

- Conferences – MaryAnn Karre, Vice President of Conferences
  - Should Interns for Treasurer, Vice President of Conferences, Secretary to overlap terms (“elect” instead of having interns)? Probably not necessary for Secretary.

**MOTION: The NYLA-SSL board will investigate the possibility to have an “elect” position for VP Conferences as there is with Treasurer.**

Motion made by Jane Herbst, Second by MaryAnn Karre. *Motion carried.*

-2017 Conference- Buffalo? Tentative

-2016 Conference – Melissa Bergin – have a hotel in place (Desmond in Albany) – will have Save the Date cards in April, working on “capitalize” theme since we’ll be in the capital.

-2015 Conference – Tara Edmonds and Nina Levine – brochure available, menus and conference sessions already posted on website, links to registration (handled by NYLA), looking for facilitators and vendors

-Jen Cannell – SLSA asked her to ask the board: should we merge our conference with NYLA? Concern about being able to get away in the fall for NYLA, concern about losing our conference that is “just for us” and local presenters. – Decided to table the discussion. Not interested at this time.

**MOTION: To move NYLA-SSL board meeting time from Thursday afternoon to Friday morning from 7-9 am, effective at the 2016 conference**

Motion made by Katie St. Laurent. Second by MaryAnn Karre. *Motion carried.*

- Awards – Dawn Pressimone – awards announced this week to winners, great administrators this year, no applicants to Follett Continuing Ed award, so maybe we can turn that into another award? Waiting to hear from Patty

to see how much money was raised for Leadership Institute awards at auction so we know how many scholarships we will have available.

- Legislation – Jill Leinung – Virtual Advocacy Day is February 24, Advocacy day is Feb 25. Get Members to do CapWiz advocacy form to send to legislators, see facebook page for links. Library Snapshot Day ends Monday. Big changes in assembly – may not be a terrible thing for us. Thomas Abonanti is assemblyman from Westchester – new head of library committee. Support advocacy day because it does support SSL.
- Leadership Institute – Lisa Perkowski, Sara Kelly Johns – Report is in Google Drive, including draft brochure, “School Librarians: deeply embedded, fully collaborative”. Every participant will need a PRINT copy of IFC – brochure will have check mark if you need one, will charge \$15. Only NYLA-SSL members can attend – SLSA directors need to send participant names, not just reserve slots. Tech smackdown is back but needs to be revamped to call it Appy Hour.

**MOTION: To increase the cost to attend Leadership Institute by \$5 for members and board members.**

Motion made by Michelle Miller. Second by Beth Davis. *Motion carried.*

- Joint Task Force – Sara Kelly Johns, Past President of NYLA
- SED – John Brock, Joanne Shawhan, Mary Beth Farr  
Summit Initiatives – visit NYSED website to read summit documents.  
-Looking at SLMPE document, updating data from member plans. 1. Creation of exemplary School Library webpage is important, 2. Administrators need to know how important elementary school librarians are. Elementary Librarian position statement – several versions (short and long) – available on NYLA website if you need it. Good info for administrators too:  
<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/school-libraries/why-are-school-libraries-essential>

-PD map: maps all great professional development opportunities, develop tools to evaluate the quality of PD. School librarians should be early adopters in engageNY model – respond to survey.

-SLMPE rubric – many BOCES use it for member plan, can collect data. Big work will come as we develop administrators pages.

-Need ways to collect data - NYLA should request data from BEDS, should be able to get it. We may not get NYC data (they have stopped reporting), but we could get some useful information.

-BEDS forms should include a line that says “Should be filled out by your school librarian”

-SL Summit document posted on website.

- Region VIII - MaryAnn Sheets – Determining boundaries and assignment of Regions – who determines?
- Ways and Means - Penny Sweeney– Budget for order of travel coffee mugs and/or water bottle with NYLA symbol and/or wordle – what do we want? – travel mugs (without wordle), fleece jackets
- Knickerbocker– Karen O’Donnell – Stephen Kellogg is so appreciative of his award! He’s never won.
- Katie St. Laurent – organized Google Drive, created an organizational documents folder that has updated 2015 reimbursement form.
- NYCEA (NYS Council of Education Associations) – Karen Sperrazza - meta association. On NYCEA.org, list of conferences all over the state – good that we had that information to share with them, made us look good!
- Sunshine Fund - Karen Sperrazza is collecting for the Sunshine Fund \$10 per person, email any news.

**Next meeting:** April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2-5 pm, Tarrytown

**MOTION: To adjourn**

Motion made by Rebecca Buerkett. Second by Michelle Miller. *Motion carried.*

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.